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August 2, 2011

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Notice of Oral *Ex Parte* Communication
***Connect America Fund*, WC Docket No. 10-90**
***A National Broadband Plan for Our Future*, GN Docket No. 09-51**
***High-Cost Universal Service Support*, WC Docket No. 05-337**
***Developing Unified Intercarrier Compensation Regime*, CC Docket No. 01-92**
***Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service*, CC Docket No. 96-45**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

We submit this notice in compliance with Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules.

On Wednesday August 31st, Free Press political adviser Joel Kelsey and research director S. Derek Turner met with Margaret McCarthy, Policy Advisor for Wireline issues to Commissioner Copps to discuss our August 24th comments in response to the Commission's *Further Inquiry* in the above dockets. We reiterated our concerns about the joint industry framework offered by six major price cap carriers and certain rural carrier associations. We emphasized the lack of meaningful reform contained in the joint industry framework, and discussed our concerns with the unjustified proposal to increase the Federal Subscriber Line Charge (SLC). We asked that the Commission settle the Federal-state separations freeze issue and conduct cost-recovery studies before considering allowing incumbent carriers to reach further into consumers' pockets or before establishing any new access recovery fund. Finally, we stressed our belief that the best way to meet America's broadband goals is to increase broadband adoption, and that focusing on fiscal reforms to the High Cost Fund in order to reduce the size of the program and return money to ratepayers is a prudent way to help boost adoption.

Very truly yours,

_____/s/_____

S. Derek Turner
Research Director
Free Press

cc: Margaret McCarthy